

# The Inverness Courier

## Munro reaches last four

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GRAEME Munro defied a chest infection to reach the last four in his division of the Senior Scottish Open Championships.

Fighting at the Meadowbank Stadium in Edinburgh, the Highland Boxing Academy member, overcame illness to comprehensively defeat opponent Anthony O'Neill, from Noble Art Amateur Boxing Club, 22-8 on points.

Having triumphed at a show in Elgin towards the end of last year, the bantamweight maintained his good form and will now travel to Garioch Sports Centre in Inverurie tomorrow for his semi-final encounter against Lochend's David Dickson.

"Graeme picked up a chest infection in the build-up to this bout and while it did not appear to affect him when in the ring, he was coughing and spluttering between rounds," said academy head coach Liam Foy.

"Given he was struggling a bit, then he did tremendous well to pick up such an impressive victory.

"Sometimes when you are training really hard for a bout then you tend to not strike the right balance between training and resting, but Graeme managed to overcome his chest infection and did really well.

"Meadowbank Stadium was absolutely packed, which was great to see as it shows there is still great interest in amateur boxing in this country.

"Graeme was the first bout on after the interval and even though there were a few empty seats initially, it quickly filled up and the atmosphere was excellent throughout, which I think really helped Graeme."

Foy also paid tribute to Munro, of Inverness, for the work he put in before the contest, ensuring he was in peak condition for the pre-fight weigh in.

"When you are trying to make a weight for a fight, there is a small margin for error, but there's certainly not much room messing about," he said.

"Anywhere between 52 and 56 kilos was what Graeme was looking for and when he stood on the scales he was exactly 56, something which impressed both the judges and officials greatly.

"It not only showed how much work Graeme had put in during the preparations, but it was also pleasing for the coaches as well."

Should Munro emerge victorious tomorrow, then he could potentially face Scottish internationalist Joe Ham in the final should both win their respective last four encounters.

Graeme Munro pictured alongside coaches (l-r) Angus Maclean, Liam Foy and Alan Maclennan

